

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

CALIFORNIA DIVISION

980 Ninth Street, Suite 400

Sacramento, CA. 95814-2724

January 9, 2003

IN REPLY REFER TO

HDA-CA

Document # 41055

Mr. Jeff Morales, Director
California Department of Transportation
1120 N Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Attention: Federal Resources Branch, Room 3500
For Kris Balaji, Transportation Programming

Dear Mr. Morales:

SUBJECT: FY 2002/03 FSTIP Amendment No. 2 – Council of Fresno County Governments (COFCG)

We have completed our review of Amendment No. 2 to the Local Highway Element of the COFCG's 2002/03-2004/05 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) that was submitted by your letter dated October 25, 2002. The COFCG adopted this amendment with Resolution No. 2002-38, Amendment No. 2, on September 26, 2002, approving these program modifications and reaffirming the conformity of the COFCG FTIP with the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP) for air quality.

This amendment was requested by the COFCG as follows:

- Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program – The amendment deletes Sunset Avenue Bicycle/Pedestrian Facility (MPO ID: FRE020109 - \$287,600 in CMAQ) project and transfers funds to Polk Street Bicycle Lane (MPO ID: FRE020107 – PE increases \$9,000, RW deleted - \$5,400, Const. increases \$40,600) and "Monterey Avenue Paved Shoulders (MPO ID: FRE020108 – PE increases \$9,900, Const. increases \$60,900)" projects in the City of Coalinga.
- Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP): The amendment deletes Lump Sum A/C Overlays On Various Eligible Routes (MPO ID: FRE020606 - \$267,300 in RSTP) and Lump Sum Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities On Eligible Routes (MPO ID: FRE020607 – \$267,300 in RSTP) projects and programs all funds to a new project, SR 33/198 Intersection Beautification Project (MPO ID: FRE020650 - \$534,600 in RSTP) in the City of Coalinga.

The CMAQ program changes are requested by the COFCG on behalf of the City of Coalinga to allow two previously under-funded bike lane projects to be completed as programmed. The City will later request that residual Sunset Avenue project (MPO ID: FRE020109) funds be reprogrammed for lump-sum alley paving project(s), however COFCG notes that this will require an air quality conformity determination. Therefore, the change to the CMAQ program

contained in Amendment No. 2 only involves the transfer of a partial amount of funds from the Sunset Avenue project to the two previously approved bike lane projects.

We accept this amendment in accordance with the provisions of 23 CFR Part 450. We find that this amendment was developed through a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process carried out in accordance with the provisions of 23 U.S.C. section 134, and section 8 of the Federal Transit Act (49 U.S.C. app. §1607). Based on our review, we find that changes made to the COFCG FTIP by this amendment are exempt from the requirement that a conformity determination be performed. Therefore, we find this FTIP to conform to the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP).

This finding has been coordinated with the regional office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Region Nine office of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) in accordance with the procedures outlined on the Memorandum of Understanding, dated March 8, 1996, on single mode FTIP amendments.

This letter also constitutes approval and inclusion of the COFCG's FTIP Amendment No. 2 into California's 2002/03 – 2004/05 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP).

Sincerely,

/s/K. Sue Kiser

For

Gary N. Hamby

Division Administrator

c:

EPA Region IX, Karina O'Connor

FTA Region IX, Paul Page

COFCG FTIP Binder

COFCG:

Barbara Goodwin

Tony Boren

Rick Ballantyne

Mike Bitner

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Kris Balaji, Office of Federal Program Management (FAX: 916-654-2738) ✓